



RE: E85 UST failure in MN

Higgins, Tom (MPCA)

to:

JohnT Wilson

06/07/2012 09:38 AM

Cc:

'Bruce Bauman', "Toso, Mark (MPCA)", Andrea Barberly, Jack Hwang, Michael Pomes, Jim Weaver, Fran Kremer, Ann Keeley, "Toso, Mark (MPCA)"

Hide Details

From: "Higgins, Tom (MPCA)" <tom.higgins@state.mn.us> Sort List...

To: JohnT Wilson/ADA/USEPA/US@EPA,

Cc: 'Bruce Bauman' <Bauman@api.org>, "Toso, Mark (MPCA)" <mark.toso@state.mn.us>, Andrea Barberly/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Jack Hwang/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Pomes/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Jim Weaver/ADA/USEPA/US@EPA, Fran Kremer/CI/USEPA/US@EPA, Ann Keeley/ADA/USEPA/US@EPA, "Toso, Mark (MPCA)" <mark.toso@state.mn.us>

John –

After talking with the tank owner yesterday I suspect that he will not be ready to remove the tank until the week of June 18th. I've asked the tank owner to let me know when the tank removal is scheduled. We can certainly pass along photos from the tank removal once the tank is pulled. In terms of collecting water & gasoline samples from the tank along with any rust or corrosion samples from the welding seam, should we follow the same SOP instructions that you provide Mark Toso for the recent UST failure in Montevideo MN?

Thanks

Tom

Tom Higgins

Hydrologist

Petroleum Remediation Program

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

651-757-2436

From: JohnT Wilson [<mailto:Wilson.JohnT@epamail.epa.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 06, 2012 3:53 PM

To: Higgins, Tom (MPCA)

Cc: 'Bruce Bauman'; Toso, Mark (MPCA); Andrea Barberly; Jack Hwang; Michael Pomes; Jim Weaver; Fran Kremer; Ann Keeley

Subject: RE: E85 UST failure in MN

Tom:

I would be interested in samples. Cherri is on vacation this week and there will be nothing we can do about getting a sampling kit to you until late next week. If the tank is not entirely dry, and you can get us a few ml of gasoline, that would be very useful. If there is water in the tank that would be useful. I would like good photographs of the bad welding seam. If there is rust or corrosion on the seam, I would like to get samples.

Jack Hwang and the Team: Do you know of a metallurgist that can use SEM or such to look for evidence of the process that lead to the failure. Maybe the folks at Georgia Tech would accept a modest contract to examine materials from this spill.

(See attached file: Beavers Corrosion 2011 v67.pdf)(See attached file: Lou JES 2010 v157 no2 pC86.pdf)

▼ "Higgins, Tom (MPCA)" ---06/06/2012 03:28:49 PM---John / Bruce I was informed today of a 1300 gallon release of E85 from an underground storage tank i

From: "Higgins, Tom (MPCA)" <tom.higgins@state.mn.us>
 To: JohnT Wilson/ADA/USEPA/US@EPA, 'Bruce Bauman' <Bauman@api.org>
 Cc: "Toso, Mark (MPCA)" <mark.toso@state.mn.us>
 Date: 06/06/2012 03:28 PM
 Subject: RE: E85 UST failure in MN

John / Bruce

I was informed today of a 1300 gallon release of E85 from an underground storage tank in Canby MN. This release occurred over Memorial day holiday weekend. I know that Mark Toso has tried to keep you both in the loop when past incidents like this have occurred however he is on vacation this week and thought I drop you both an email as an FYI...We have limited information at this point however the facility operator indicated that they noted a 1300 gallon discrepancy from their inventory control after a tank alarm went off on Monday May 28th. The facility owner had the tank pumped dry on June 1st and at this point we are waiting to find out when the tank will be removed. The tank owner indicated via a phone interview that he suspects the release may have originated from a bad welding seam on the tank. Based on our records this tank was installed in April 1997 and is an STI-P3 tank.

I will be meeting with our emergency response crew tomorrow morning to discuss our options, if we're able to apply a source area corrective action during tank removal we will probably do so since this is a recent release however the site has several other tank system onsite which could make an emergency corrective action challenging. Canby MN is located in SW MN which is largely made up of low permeability glacial tills making in-situ treatment a challenge as well.

If you would have any interest in collecting samples of or from the tank for this site let me know and we can coordinate these activities with the tank removal. At this point I do not know who the facility owner will be using as a tank contractor to remove the tank however we will be using the same consultant who was involved in the Montevideo E85 UST site from April 2012.

Thanks
 Tom

Tom Higgins
 Hydrologist
 Petroleum Remediation Program
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 651-757-2436

From: Toso, Mark (MPCA)
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 9:11 AM
To: 'Jim Weaver'; 'Wilson.JohnT@epamail.epa.gov'; 'Bruce Bauman'
Cc: Higgins, Tom (MPCA)
Subject: E85 UST failure in MN

As I mentioned last week we have a report of an E85 UST that was taking on water. This tank was installed in 1995 and has been in E85 service since 2007. A vacuum test found there was a hole near or at the bottom. More details from our UST inspector –

I talked with Dan Dolan (an employee of Farmers Union Co-Op Oil Company) earlier today. He gave me a little background information as to how they began thinking there might be a hole in the tank. He said that they started to get car complaints from people around February 15th. That is what caused them to discover that the tank was taking in water. He said that they removed all product except for the bottom 4 inches on February 29th or March 1st. After removing most of the product from the tank, he said that they started gaining an inch or two of water every day. It sounds like they didn't have a drop in product, but rather it seemed like they were gaining product due to the infiltration of water. Regardless, he said that he could get inventory records from January until now relatively soon. I'm not sure how far back I should be requesting inventory records, but I told him I may request a more extensive inventory history if I think it necessary. He also said that he would be sending me the monthly tank leak detection records as well as the most recent CP test.

The tank is scheduled to be pulled next Monday, 4/9, and is located in Montevideo which is in SW MN, same latitude as St Paul. If you guys want samples of or from the tank, contact for the tank contractor is Eric Rose with Westmor Industries. His phone # is (320) 589-7259 Cell [REDACTED]. Tom Higgins is the remediation contact for the MPCA, his was copied on this message and his phone is 651-757-2436. I think both of us plan to be at the tank pull, you guys are welcome too if you want to make the trip. If you have any questions let us know.

Mark A. Toso, P.G.
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